

O'Connor was not successful in reaching Avent by telephone. Accordingly, on April 19, O'Connor sent Avent a facsimile stating that he wanted to talk to her about the supposed fact that she had told representatives of an applicant Indian tribe that she would "help them get approval from Interior Secretary Babbitt" for the off-reservation casino at Hudson.<sup>291</sup> In the facsimile, O'Connor also expressed his desire "to discuss some aspects of this matter which I believe are important to the Clinton Administration." Avent was out of town when O'Connor sent his facsimile, and she again did not respond to O'Connor.

**b. O'Connor Speaks to President Clinton and Bruce Lindsey**

Unable to speak with Avent, O'Connor decided to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by an upcoming presidential event in Minnesota. On April 24, 1995, President Clinton was in Minnesota, where he addressed a gathering of the American Association of Community Colleges at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Early on the morning on April 24, O'Connor called the White House to provide Avent with one last chance to be responsive to his concerns about Hudson before he approached the President with them at the Minnesota event, but he did not reach her. He then proceeded with his plan to take up the Hudson matter with the President.

After the President's speech at the convention center, he worked a "ropeline," which consisted of the President walking down a line of about 50 to 60 people pre-selected by the White House to shake hands with the President. Bruce Lindsey, Assistant to the President and

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<sup>290</sup>(...continued)  
reported to Marcia Hale, the head of the OIA, and to Harold Ickes, in his role as White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Political Affairs.

<sup>291</sup>Avent told investigators that O'Connor's statement was untrue; she never told the applicant tribes that she would assist them with the Hudson casino application.